

CONFIDENTIAL

April 3, 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Item for Lunch with Board Members today

If time permits, I suggest that you bring the Board up to date on the escapee situation as we see it. Our understanding of the facts is as follows:

1. There are still three separate positions as to the handling of future legislation for the authorization of the non-military aspects of our escapee programs (Phase A and education and training and other non-military Phase B programs). These are:
 - (a) State, Defense, CIA and the Director strongly believe that the Special Migration Act should not be a vehicle for obtaining authorization for the escapee program.
 - (b) Defense, CIA and Director, PSB. No Administration support for the inclusion of the necessary authorization in the Special Migration Act; new language for the Mutual Security Act which will provide the authorization.
 - (c) State. No Administration support for the inclusion of the necessary authorization in the Special Migration Act; reliance on Kersten Amendment with language unchanged and with legislative history through Committee Report to indicate Congressional intent.
 - (d) Mr. Harriman's Position. Inclusion of Title II, authorizing non-military aspects of the escapee program to Special Migration Act; leave Kersten Amendment as is and provide legislative history in Committee Report.
2. Defense feels committed to Congress to use all end-item money for end-items and will not permit use of these funds under Kersten Amendment for non-military aspects of escapee program, unless directed to do so by the President. We understand that Defense would like this matter brought to the President now for decision rather than later.

3. Mr. David Lloyd who is handling this matter in the White House advises me as follows:

- (a) The best legislative strategy calls for the authorization of our program through Title II of the Special Migration Act. This Act was introduced by Representative Celler yesterday.
- (b) Sam Berger has informed him that neither State nor CIA will oppose this position.
- (c) If Congressional authorization is not obtained in this fashion the Administration should go to the House Foreign Affairs Committee for authorization in some other manner.
- (d) Upon my suggestion that his tactics might result in the loss of our program for lack of any sponsor, he agreed that it would be desirable for him to call the interested agencies together and discuss the question of who would support our program, at what stage and before what Committee.

4. Mr. Dulles' willingness to brief, again, selected members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on the need for our program but only after, and I presume subject to, the character of the Administration's position as to its legislative handling.

I suggest that you bring these facts to the attention of the Board for their information and say that you see no action which you or your staff can take at the moment, since the matter seems to be at the Cabinet level.


Assistant Director
Office of Coordination

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